

## **Howard County Council**

George Howard Building 3430 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

Mary Kay Sigaty, Chairperson
District 4
Jennifer Terrasa, Vice Chairperson
District 3
Calvin Ball
District 2
Greg Fox
District 5
Courtney Watson
District 1

July 22, 2009

The Honorable Beverly K. Swaim-Staley Office of the Secretary Maryland Department of Transportation 7201 Corporate Center Drive Hanover, MD 21076

Dear Acting Secretary Swaim-Staley:

The Howard County Council is pleased to support Howard County's proposal for grant funding under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program, a key component of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

With the aid of the requested \$25 million TIGER grant, Howard County intends to construct a Central Maryland Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility (CMTOF) to serve the needs of three locally operated transit systems—Howard Transit, Western Anne Arundel County services, and Connect-A-Ride. This is a cooperative effort that will improve public transportation opportunities for citizens throughout the Baltimore-Washington area including enhanced transit connections to BRAC-related jobs at and around Fort Meade. Equally important, development of the facility will help us to preserve existing jobs and create new job opportunities both locally and nationally.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Mary Kay Sigaty, Chair Howard County Council

MS/rj

cc: Howard County State Delegation

Ken Ulman, County Executive

Howard County Council

Don Halligan, Director, MDOT

Paul Wiedefeld, Administrator, MTA

Diane Ratcliff, Director, Office of Planning, MTA

Jessica Feldmark, Chief of Staff

Marsha McLaughlin, Director, DPZ

Carl Balser, Chief, Transportation Planning, DPZ

File: CMTOF



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